

RP 290.1159USM 10/6/06

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In the specification:

On Page 4, line 12, please amend the specification as shown below:

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Normal optical rotators or Faraday rotators generally only useful for a single predetermined wavelength or over a very narrow spectral range and it exhibits dispersion effect with the rotation angle strongly depending on the wavelength of light. The dispersion for an optical rotator or a Faraday rotator is not desired in most cases because it rotates light by different angles depending on the wavelength of the light. The optical rotatory dispersion is well known and it is conventionally recognized as an undesirable effect in most applications of the optical rotator or Faraday rotator. Due to this reason, efforts are given to develop achromatic optical and Faraday rotators.

On Page 9, line 22, please amend the specification as shown below:

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Rotation of the exit polarized 14 is not desirable for some applications and it can be avoided by introducing ~~introduce~~ a rotatable achromatic half-wave plate before the polarizer 14 in accordance with the prior art. FIG. 2 schematically illustrates the so modified arrangement, which is formed from the filter of FIG. 1 by inserting an achromatic half-wave plate 16 before the polarizer 14. For the filter of FIG. 2, the exit polarizer 14 may remain stationary. When rotating the half-wave plate 16 such that its fast axis has an angle of γ related to that of the entrance polarizer 11, the light intensity behind the polarizer 14 will be exactly equal to what produced by adding retardation $\delta\Delta=4\gamma$ to the birefringent plate 12. The quarter-wave plate 13 and the half-wave plate 16 form a two-plate tuning element or tuner 17.

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